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Dkt. 2271/74286

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application of: Hiroaki KYOUGOKU and Junichi IKEDA

Serial No.: 10/531,755

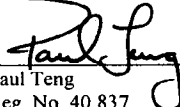
Int'l Appln. No.: PCT/JP2003/013843

Date Filed: April 18, 2005

Int'l Filing Date: 29 October 2003

For: SEMICONDUCTOR LASER DRIVING DEVICE, SEMICONDUCTOR LASER DRIVING METHOD, AND IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS USING THE SEMICONDUCTOR LASER DRIVING DEVICE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

 March 23, 2006  
Paul Teng Date  
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Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Pursuant to the applicant's duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached Form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner.

It is respectfully requested that the information cited in annexed Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, and that such art be made of record in said application.

The information listed in the Form PTO-1449 was cited in a February 24, 2006 official Communication and Supplementary European Search Report in connection with European Application No. EP 03 76 9954 which corresponds to the above-identified application. A copy of the February 24, 2006 Communication and Supplementary European Search Report is enclosed herewith.

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that these items are prior art. The items listed are

submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of the particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

According to the August 5, 2003 OG Notice published by the Patent and Trademark Office, the Office has waived the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each cited U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003 and for all international application that have entered the national stage under 35 U.S.C. §371 after June 30, 2003.

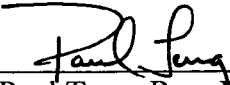
Accordingly, copies are submitted herewith for only references listed on the annexed For PTO-1449 that are not a U.S. patent or U.S patent application publication.

This Information Disclosure is submitted pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3). To the best of Applicant's knowledge, a first Office Action on the merits has not been issued in this application.

Alternatively, Applicant requests consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(1). Each item of information listed in the attached Form PTO-1449 was cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior hereto. Accordingly, no fees are believed to be required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement.

However, the Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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